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STATINTL

# Fulbright Opposes GI Use in Laos

Associated Press

Chairman J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday firmly opposed sending American troops into Laos to stem the Communist drive there.

But he said he would favor further American military action in South Viet-Nam, Thailand or Burma if those nations request it.

America faces a serious loss of prestige if Laos falls to the Communist-led Pathet Lao rebels, Fulbright acknowledged.

"But I don't think the terrain and conditions are right for sending in our troops," he said. "We must seek another solution and we are."

Fulbright spoke out before a NBC television news panel (WRC—Meet the Press) against a background of Communist success in Laos, Cuba and South Viet-Nam, where guerillas are threatening the pro-Western government.

He said one of the greatest failures of the present Administration had been its failure to inform the American people of the crisis they face.

"I would hope the President would give some special attention to informing us over television," Fulbright said. ". . . He should have some educational interviews to inform all of us of the nature of the conditions we confront and what should be done about them."

Fulbright said he was confident the American people are "eager to do whatever needs to be done if it is clearly outlined." He said this included paying higher taxes if necessary.

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